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SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2342

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1998 Regular Session

By House Committee on Trade & Economic Development (originally sponsored by Representatives Van Luven, McDonald, Regala, Talcott, Huff, Conway, Lantz, Fisher, Gardner, Anderson, Lambert and Boldt)

Read first time 01/22/98. Referred to Committee on .

- 1 AN ACT Relating to international services; adding a new section to
- 2 chapter 82.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.14 RCW; and
- 3 providing an effective date.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 5 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 82.04 RCW 6 to read as follows:
- 7 (1) There may be credited against the tax imposed by this chapter,
- 8 an amount equal to five percent of the qualified payroll, by a business
- 9 that is:
- 10 (a) Located within a designated community empowerment zone; and
- 11 (b) Engaged in the business of providing selected international
- 12 services.
- 13 (2) In order to claim the tax credit under this section the
- 14 business must:
- 15 (a) Expend an amount, averaged over the most recent five-year
- 16 period, equal or greater than twenty percent of the tax credit on
- 17 training of empowerment zone employees;
- 18 (b) Provide internship positions in conjunction with a targeted
- 19 program of study offered by a local institution of higher education or

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- 1 vocational-technical school designed to provide experience relevant to 2 the activities of the business;
- 3 (c) Provide summer employment opportunities in conjunction with the 4 local high schools, that is targeted to high school aged youth that 5 reside within the community empowerment zone, and that is designed to 6 provide experience relevant to the activities of the business; and
- 7 (d) Hire, over the most recent five-year period, at least twenty 8 percent of the total employees located within the designated community 9 empowerment zone from applicants who reside, at the time of 10 application, in the designated community empowerment zone.
- 11 (3) A business may not use the tax credit to relocate existing jobs 12 in a community in the state to the designated community empowerment 13 zone.
- 14 (4) The annual credit allowed under this section shall be limited 15 to the amount of tax imposed by this chapter.
 - (5) As used in this section and section 2 of this act:
- 17 (a) "Designated community empowerment zone" means a geographic area 18 approved under RCW 43.63A.700;
- 19 (b) "Selected international services" means a business that:
- (i) Provides any of the following services related directly to the delivery of the service outside the United States or on behalf of persons residing outside the United States: Computer; data processing; information; legal; accounting; tax preparation; design; engineering; architectural; business consulting; business management; public relations and advertising; surveying; geological consulting; real estate appraisal; and financial; and
 - (ii) Is subject to taxation under RCW 82.04.290(2); and
- (c) "Qualified payroll" means the gross wages and benefits paid or accrued, with respect to each employee of the business that is directly involved in providing selected international services and was hired after the effective date of this act, during the first five years of such employee's employment within a designated community empowerment zone.
- NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 48.14 RCW
- 35 to read as follows:

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- 36 (1) There may be credited against the tax imposed under RCW
- 37 48.14.020, an amount equal to five percent of the qualified payroll, by

38 a business that is:

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- 1 (a) Located within a designated community empowerment zone; and
- 2 (b) Engaged in the business of providing selected international services.
- 4 (2) In order to claim the tax credit under this section the 5 business must:
- 6 (a) Expend an amount, averaged over the most recent five-year 7 period, equal or greater than twenty percent of the tax credit on 8 training of empowerment zone employees;
- 9 (b) Provide internship positions in conjunction with a targeted 10 program of study offered by a local institution of higher education or 11 vocational-technical school designed to provide experience relevant to 12 the activities of the business;
- (c) Provide summer employment opportunities in conjunction with the local high schools, that is targeted to high school aged youth that reside within the community empowerment zone, and that is designed to provide experience relevant to the activities of the business; and
- (d) Hire, over the most recent five-year period, at least twenty percent of the total employees located within the designated community empowerment zone from applicants who reside, at the time of application, in the designated community empowerment zone.
- 21 (3) A business may not use the tax credit to relocate existing jobs 22 in a community in the state to the designated community empowerment 23 zone.
- 24 (4) The annual credit allowed under this section shall be limited 25 to the amount of tax imposed by this chapter.
- 26 (5) As used in this section:
- 27 (a) "Designated community empowerment zone" has the same meaning as 28 in section 1 of this act;
- 29 (b) "Selected international services" has the same meaning as in 30 section 1 of this act; and
- 31 (c) "Qualified payroll" has the same meaning as in section 1 of 32 this act.
- 33 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** This act takes effect July 1, 1998.

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